

10/538387

1020 789042 PTO 13 JUN 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Koji Otsuka et al.
Serial No. :
Filed :
PCT NO. : PCT/JP03/15242
IFD : November 28, 2003
TC/A.U. :
Confirmation No:
Examiner :

Docket No. : 05-429
Customer No. : 34704

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In accordance with Applicant's continued duty of disclosure, the following documents are brought to the Examiner's attention:

- (1) JP Patent No. 2001297602;
- (2) JP Patent No. 2002314148;
- (3) JP Patent No. 2002231005;
- (4) JP Patent No. 9213114;
- (5) JP Patent No. 7294914;
- (6) JP Patent No. 10054927; and
- (7) JP Patent No. 11024587.

A listing on Form PTO-1449 is enclosed along with a copy of the non-U.S. documents.

The undersigned submits the above-identified references for independent consideration by the Examiner and does not make any admission that these references are or are not material to the present invention or that these references are or are not prior art with respect to the present invention.

If any fees are required in connection with this case, it is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-0184.

Respectfully submitted,

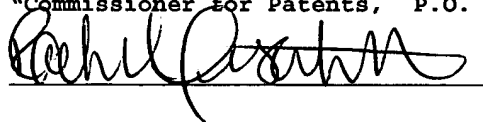
Koji Otsuka et al.

By 

Gregory P. LaPointe
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No.: 28,395
Tel: (203) 777-6628
Fax: (203) 865-0297

Date: June 13, 2005

I, Rachel Piscitelli, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on June 13, 2005.



Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Complete if Known

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

of

2

Application Number

101538387

Filing Date

Koji Otsuka et al.

First Named Inventor

Art Unit

Examiner Name

Attorney Docket Number

05-429

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ ~Number ⁴ ~Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			
		JP 2001297602	10-26-2001	Masutani		
		JP 2002314148	10-25-2002	Koike		
		JP 2002231005	08-16-2002	Naruse		
		JP 9213114	08-15-1997	Murakami et al.		
		JP 7294914	11-10-1995	Hino		
		JP 10054927	02-24-1998	Okuda et al.		

**Examiner
Signature**

Date
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Complete if Known

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

2

of

2

Application Number

10/538387

Filing Date

Koji Otsuka et al.

First Named Inventor

Art Unit

Examiner Name

Attorney Docket Number

05-429

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁵
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			
		JP 11024587	01-29-1999	Hatasawa et a.		

Date
Considered

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.